

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,  
and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An electronic camera,  
2 comprising:  
3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;  
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a  
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured  
7 by said image capturing unit;  
8 a setting unit setting an image capturing condition  
9 for capturing the image of the subject;  
10 a storing unit storing a plurality of pieces of  
11 image forming instruction information used when an image  
12 forming apparatus forms a visible image based on the  
13 image data;  
14 a selecting unit automatically selecting a  
15 predetermined piece of image forming instruction  
16 information from among the plurality of pieces of image  
17 forming instruction information stored in said storing  
18 unit, based on the image capturing condition set by said  
19 setting unit, the image capturing condition being the  
20 image capturing condition under which the subject was  
21 captured; and  
22 an outputting unit associating the image forming  
23 instruction information selected by said selecting unit  
24 with the image data, and outputting the selected image  
25 forming instruction information in association with the  
26 image data.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): An electronic camera,  
2 comprising:

3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;  
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a  
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured  
7 by said image capturing unit;  
8 a shooting mode selecting unit selecting a mode used  
9 for shooting from among a plurality of shooting modes;  
10 a storing unit storing a plurality of image forming  
11 instruction modes used when an image forming apparatus  
12 forms a visible image based on the image data;  
13 an image forming instruction mode selecting unit  
14 automatically selecting a predetermined image forming  
15 instruction mode from among the plurality of image  
16 forming instruction modes stored in said storing unit  
17 based on the shooting mode selected by said shooting mode  
18 selecting unit, the shooting mode image capturing  
19 ~~condition~~ being the image capturing condition shooting  
20 mode under which the subject was captured; and  
21 an outputting unit associating the image forming  
22 instruction mode selected by said image forming  
23 instruction mode selecting unit with the image data, and  
24 outputting the selected image forming instruction mode in  
25 association with the image data.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): An electronic camera,  
2 comprising:

3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;  
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a  
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured  
7 by said image capturing unit;

8 an image capturing condition setting unit setting a  
9 condition for image capturing performed by said image  
10 capturing unit based on status of the subject;  
11 a storing unit storing a plurality of image forming  
12 instruction modes used when an image forming apparatus  
13 forms a visible image based on the image data;  
14 an image forming instruction mode selecting unit  
15 automatically selecting a predetermined image forming  
16 instruction mode from among the plurality of image  
17 forming instruction modes stored in said storing unit  
18 based on the condition for image capturing, which is set  
19 by said image capturing condition setting unit, the image  
20 capturing condition being the image capturing condition  
21 under which the subject was captured; and  
22 an outputting unit associating the image forming  
23 instruction mode selected by said image forming  
24 instruction mode selecting unit with the image data, and  
25 outputting the selected image forming instruction mode in  
26 association with the image data.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): An electronic camera,  
2 comprising:  
3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;  
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a  
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured  
7 by said image capturing unit;  
8 a shooting mode selecting unit selecting a mode used  
9 for shooting from among a plurality of shooting modes;  
10 an image capturing condition setting unit setting a  
11 condition for image capturing performed by said image  
12 capturing unit based on status of the subject;

13 a storing unit storing a plurality of image forming  
14 instruction modes used when an image forming apparatus  
15 forms a visible image based on the image data;  
16 an image forming instruction mode selecting unit  
17 automatically selecting a predetermined image forming  
18 instruction mode from among the plurality of image  
19 forming instruction modes stored in said storing unit  
20 based on the shooting mode selected by said shooting mode  
21 selecting unit, and the condition for image capturing,  
22 which is set by said image capturing condition setting  
23 unit, the image capturing condition being the image  
24 capturing condition under which the subject was captured;  
25 and  
26 an outputting unit associating the image forming  
27 instruction mode selected by said image forming  
28 instruction mode selecting unit with the image data, and  
29 outputting the selected image forming instruction mode in  
30 association with the image data.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): An electronic camera,  
2 comprising:  
3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;  
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a  
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured  
7 by said image capturing unit;  
8 a setting unit setting an image capturing condition  
9 for capturing the image of the subject from among a  
10 plurality of image capturing conditions to which  
11 priorities are assigned;  
12 a storing unit storing a plurality of pieces of  
13 image forming instruction information used when an image

14 forming apparatus forms a visible image based on the  
15 image data;  
16 a selecting unit automatically selecting a  
17 predetermined piece of image forming instruction  
18 information from among the plurality of pieces of image  
19 forming instruction information stored in said storing  
20 unit, based on a priority assigned to the image capturing  
21 condition set by said setting unit, the image capturing  
22 condition being the image capturing condition under which  
23 the subject was captured; and  
24 an outputting unit associating the image forming  
25 instruction information selected by said selecting unit  
26 with the image data, and outputting the selected image  
27 forming instruction information in association with the  
28 image data.

1 Claim 6 (original): The electronic camera according to  
2 claim 5, wherein:  
3 the plurality of image capturing conditions include  
4 at least a mode used for shooting, and a condition for  
5 image capturing; and  
6 the mode used for shooting is assigned a priority  
7 higher than the condition for image capturing.

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): An electronic camera system  
2 having an electronic camera, and an image forming  
3 apparatus, wherein:  
4 the electronic camera comprises  
5 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
6 subject, and outputting an image signal,

7           an image processing unit obtaining image data  
8   in a predetermined format based on the image signal  
9   captured by said image capturing unit,  
10           a setting unit setting an image capturing  
11   condition for capturing the image of the subject,  
12           a storing unit storing a plurality of pieces of  
13   image forming instruction information used when the image  
14   forming apparatus forms a visible image based on the  
15   image data,  
16           a selecting unit automatically selecting a  
17   predetermined piece of image forming instruction  
18   information from among the plurality of pieces of image  
19   forming instruction information stored in said storing  
20   unit, based on the image capturing condition set by said  
21   setting unit, the image capturing condition being the  
22   image capturing condition under which the subject was  
23   captured and  
24           an outputting unit associating the image  
25   forming instruction information selected by said  
26   selecting unit with the image data, and outputting the  
27   selected image forming instruction information in  
28   association with the image data; and  
29           the image forming apparatus comprises  
30           a reading unit reading image data to be formed  
31   as an image, and the selected image forming instruction  
32   information in association with the image data,  
33           an image forming mode selecting unit selecting  
34   an image forming mode, which corresponds to the image  
35   forming instruction information read by said reading  
36   unit, from among a plurality of image forming modes  
37   performing an image forming process according to a  
38   different condition,

39 an image forming processing unit performing an  
40 image quality forming process according to the image  
41 forming mode selected by said image forming mode  
42 selecting unit, and  
43 an image outputting unit outputting image data  
44 for which an image process is performed by said image  
45 forming processing unit.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): A method associating  
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting  
3 the predetermined information in association with the  
4 image data, comprising:  
5 setting an image capturing condition for capturing  
6 an image of a subject;  
7 capturing the image of the subject, and outputting  
8 an image signal;  
9 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
10 on the image signal;  
11 automatically selecting a predetermined piece of  
12 image forming instruction information from among a  
13 plurality of pieces of image forming instruction  
14 information used when an image forming apparatus forms a  
15 visible image based on the obtained image data, according  
16 to the set image capturing condition, the image capturing  
17 condition being the image capturing condition under which  
18 the subject was captured; and  
19 associating the selected image forming instruction  
20 information with the obtained image data, and outputting  
21 the selected image forming instruction information in  
22 association with the image data.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): A method associating  
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting  
3 the predetermined information in associating with the  
4 image data, comprising:  
5       selecting a mode used for shooting from among a  
6 plurality of shooting modes;  
7       capturing an image of a subject, and outputting an  
8 image signal;  
9       obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
10 on the image signal;  
11       automatically selecting a predetermined image  
12 forming instruction mode from among a plurality of image  
13 forming instruction modes used when an image forming  
14 apparatus forms a visible image based on the obtained  
15 image data, according to the selected shooting mode, the  
16 shooting mode being the shooting mode under which the  
17 subject was captured; and  
18       associating the selected image forming instruction  
19 mode with the obtained image data, and outputting the  
20 selected image forming instruction mode in associating  
21 with the image data.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): A method associating  
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting  
3 the predetermined information in association with the  
4 image data, comprising:  
5       setting a condition for image capturing based on  
6 status of a subject;  
7       capturing an image of the subject, and outputting an  
8 image signal;  
9       obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
10 on the image signal;



11        automatically selecting a predetermined image  
12        forming instruction mode from among a plurality of image  
13        forming instruction modes used when an image forming  
14        apparatus forms a visible image based on the obtained  
15        image data, according to the set condition for image  
16        capturing, the set condition for image capturing  
17        ~~condition~~ being the set condition for image capturing  
18        ~~condition~~ under which the subject was captured; and  
19        associating the selected image forming instruction  
20        mode with the obtained image data, and outputting the  
21        selected image forming instruction mode in association  
22        with the image data.

1        Claim 11 (currently amended): A method associating  
2        predetermined information with image data, and outputting  
3        the predetermined information in association with the  
4        image data, comprising:  
5        selecting a mode used for shooting from among a  
6        plurality of shooting modes;  
7        setting a condition for image capturing based on  
8        status of a subject;  
9        capturing an image of the subject, and outputting an  
10       image signal;  
11       obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
12       on the image signal;  
13       automatically selecting a predetermined image  
14       forming instruction mode from among a plurality of image  
15       forming instruction modes used when an image forming  
16       apparatus forms a visible image based on the obtained  
17       image data, according to the selected shooting mode and  
18       the set condition for image capturing, the set condition  
19       for image capturing ~~condition~~ being the set condition for

20 image capturing ~~condition~~ under which the subject was  
21 captured; and  
22 associating the selected image forming instruction  
23 mode with the obtained image data, and outputting the  
24 selected image forming instruction mode in associating  
25 with the image data.

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): A method associating  
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting  
3 the predetermined information in association with the  
4 image data, comprising:  
5 setting an image capturing condition for capturing  
6 an image of a subject from among a plurality of image  
7 capturing conditions to which priorities are assigned;  
8 capturing the image of the subject, and outputting  
9 an image signal;  
10 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
11 on the image signal;  
12 automatically selecting a predetermined piece of  
13 image forming instruction information from among a  
14 plurality of pieces of image forming instruction  
15 information used when an image forming apparatus forms a  
16 visible image based on the obtained image data, according  
17 to a priority assigned to the set image capturing  
18 condition, the image capturing condition being the image  
19 capturing condition under which the subject was captured;  
20 and  
21 associating the selected image forming instruction  
22 information with the obtained image data, and outputting  
23 the selected image forming instruction information in  
24 associating with the image data.

1 Claim 13 (currently amended): An image forming method,  
2 comprising:  
3       setting an image capturing condition for capturing  
4 an image of a subject,  
5       capturing the image of the subject, and outputting  
6 an image signal,  
7       obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
8 on the image signal,  
9       automatically selecting a predetermined piece of  
10 image forming instruction information from among a  
11 plurality of pieces of image forming instruction  
12 information used when an image forming apparatus forms a  
13 visible image based on the obtained image data, according  
14 to the set image capturing condition, the image capturing  
15 condition being the image capturing condition under which  
16 the subject was captured, and  
17       associating the selected image forming instruction  
18 information with the obtained image data, and outputting  
19 the selected image forming instruction information in  
20 associating with the image data, in an electronic camera;  
21 and  
22       reading image data to be formed as an image, and the  
23 selected image forming instruction information in  
24 associating with the image data,  
25       selecting an image forming mode which corresponds to  
26 the read image forming instruction information from among  
27 a plurality of image forming modes performing an image  
28 forming process according to a different condition,  
29       performing an image quality forming process  
30 according to the selected image forming mode, and

31           outputting the image data for which the image  
32   process is performed as the image quality forming  
33   process, in an image forming apparatus.

1   Claim 14 (currently amended): An electronic camera,  
2   comprising:

3           an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
4   subject, and outputting an image signal;

5           an image processing unit obtaining image data in a  
6   predetermined format based on the image signal captured  
7   by said image capturing unit, ~~the image capturing~~  
8   ~~condition being the image capturing condition under which~~  
9   ~~the subject was captured;~~

10          a shooting condition correcting unit correcting a  
11   shooting condition for exposure or image quality at the  
12   time of shooting;

13          a setting unit automatically setting correction  
14   instruction information for instructing a correction for  
15   a process performed when an image forming apparatus forms  
16   a visible image from the image data, based on the  
17   shooting condition corrected by said shooting condition  
18   correcting unit, the shooting condition being the  
19   shooting condition under which the subject was captured;  
20   and

21          an outputting unit associating the set correction  
22   instruction information for instructing a correction for  
23   a process performed when the image forming apparatus  
24   forms a visible image, which is set by said setting unit,  
25   with the image data and outputting the correction  
26   instruction information in association with the image  
27   data.

1 Claim 15 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 14, wherein  
3 said setting unit sets correction instruction  
4 information for instructing whether or not to make a  
5 correction for each process that includes at least any of  
6 a grayscale process, a color process, and a sharpness  
7 process, which are performed when the image forming  
8 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,  
9 based on the shooting condition corrected by said  
10 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 16 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 15, wherein  
3 said setting unit sets correction instruction  
4 information for instructing corrections for a plurality  
5 of combined processes performed when the image forming  
6 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,  
7 based on the shooting condition corrected by said  
8 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 17 (currently amended): An electronic camera  
2 system having an electronic camera and an image forming  
3 apparatus, wherein:  
4 the electronic camera comprises  
5 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a  
6 subject, and outputting an image signal,  
7 an image processing unit obtaining image data  
8 in a predetermined format based on the image signal  
9 captured by said image capturing unit,  
10 a shooting condition correcting unit correcting  
11 a shooting condition for exposure or image quality at the  
12 time of shooting,

13           a setting unit automatically setting correction  
14 instruction information for instructing a correction for  
15 a process performed when the image forming apparatus  
16 forms a visible image from the image data, based on the  
17 shooting condition corrected by said shooting condition  
18 correcting unit, the shooting condition being the  
19 shooting condition under which the subject was captured,  
20 and

21           an outputting unit associating the set  
22 correction instruction information for instructing a  
23 correction for a process performed when the image forming  
24 apparatus forms a visible image, which is set by said  
25 setting unit, with the image data and outputting the  
26 correction instruction information in association with  
27 the image data; and

28           the image forming apparatus comprises  
29           a reading unit reading image data to be formed  
30 as an image, and the set correction instruction  
31 information in association with the image data,

32           an image forming processing unit performing an  
33 image quality forming process based on the correction  
34 instruction information read by said reading unit, and  
35           an outputting unit outputting the image data  
36 for which the image process is performed by said image  
37 forming processing unit.

1 Claim 18 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 system according to claim 17, wherein

3           said setting unit sets correction instruction  
4 information for instructing whether or not to make a  
5 correction for each process which includes at least any  
6 of a grayscale process, a color process, and a sharpness

7 process, which are performed when the image forming  
8 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,  
9 based on the shooting condition corrected by said  
10 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 19 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 system according to claim 18, wherein  
3 said setting unit sets correction instruction  
4 information for instructing corrections for a plurality  
5 of combined processes performed when the image forming  
6 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,  
7 based on the shooting condition corrected by said  
8 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 20 (currently amended): A method associating  
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting  
3 the predetermined information in association with the  
4 image data, comprising:  
5 correcting a shooting condition for exposure or  
6 image quality at the time of shooting;  
7 capturing an image of a subject, and outputting an  
8 image signal;  
9 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
10 on the image signal;  
11 automatically setting correction instruction  
12 information for instructing a correction for a process  
13 performed when an image forming apparatus forms a visible  
14 image from the obtained image data, based on the  
15 corrected shooting condition, the shooting condition  
16 being the shooting condition under which the subject was  
17 captured; and

18 associating the set correction instruction  
19 information for instructing the correction for the  
20 process performed when the image forming apparatus forms  
21 a visible image with the image data, and outputting the  
22 set correction instruction information in association  
23 with the image data.

1 Claim 21 (currently amended): An image forming method,  
2 comprising:  
3 correcting a shooting condition for exposure or  
4 image quality at the time of shooting,  
5 capturing an image of a subject, and outputting an  
6 image signal,  
7 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based  
8 on the image signal,  
9 automatically setting correction instruction  
10 information for instructing a correction for a process  
11 performed when an image forming apparatus forms a visible  
12 image from the obtained image data, based on the  
13 corrected shooting condition, the shooting condition  
14 being the shooting condition under which the subject was  
15 captured, and  
16 associating the set correction instruction  
17 information for instructing the correction for the  
18 process performed when the image forming apparatus forms  
19 a visible image with the image data, and outputting the  
20 set correction instruction information in association  
21 with the image data, in an electronic camera; and  
22 reading image data to be formed as an image, and the  
23 set correction instruction information in association  
24 with the image data,



25 performing an image quality forming process based on  
26 the read correction instruction information, and  
27 outputting the image data for which the image  
28 process is performed as the image quality forming  
29 process, in an image forming apparatus.

Claims 22-47 (canceled)

1 Claim 48 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 1, wherein the outputting unit  
3 automatically associates the image forming instruction  
4 mode selected by said image forming instruction mode  
5 selecting unit with the image data, and outputs, to the  
6 image forming apparatus, the image forming instruction  
7 mode in association with the image data such that the  
8 image forming apparatus uses, automatically, the selected  
9 piece of image forming instruction information when  
10 forming the visible image based on the image data.

1 Claim 49 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus  
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 50 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 2, wherein the image forming apparatus  
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 51 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 3, wherein the image forming apparatus  
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 52 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 4, wherein the image forming apparatus  
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 53 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 5, wherein the image forming apparatus  
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 54 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 system according to claim 7, wherein the image forming  
3 apparatus is a printer.

1 Claim 55 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 8, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 56 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 9, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 57 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 10, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 58 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 11, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 59 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 12, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 60 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 13, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 61 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 according to claim 14, wherein the image forming  
3 apparatus is a printer.

1 Claim 62 (previously presented): The electronic camera  
2 system according to claim 17, wherein the image forming  
3 apparatus is a printer.

1 Claim 63 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 20, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.

1 Claim 64 (previously presented): The method according to  
2 claim 21, wherein the image forming apparatus is a  
3 printer.